

LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE: **December 13, 2005**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 9

CONSENT:

REGULAR: **X**

CLOSED SESSION:

(Confidential)

ACTION: **X**

INFORMATION:

ITEM TITLE: **Adoption of a Resolution Endorsing a Grant Application for Regional Water Supply Planning**

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached resolution endorsing an application for a grant to assist in regional water supply planning.

SUMMARY: The attached letter from Gary Christie, Executive Director of the Region 2000 Local Government Council explains a proposal to seek grant funding from the Department of Environmental Quality to facilitate regional water supply planning. The managers of the Region 2000 localities agree that addressing the state mandate to prepare water supply plans will involve considerable regional cooperation. The purpose of the grant application is to determine how best to go about this process, what information is available and required from each jurisdiction and at what level and to what extent the regional approach will be most relevant.

PRIOR ACTION(S): None

FISCAL IMPACT: Less than \$2000 to provide the City's proportional share of the required local match. Funds will come from the Water Utility Fund.

CONTACT(S): Kimball Payne, 455-3990

ATTACHMENT(S): Letter, Resolution

REVIEWED BY: lkp

Resolution

Whereas the Virginia General Assembly has mandated the development of source water supply plans throughout the Commonwealth and the State Water Control Board has developed regulations to implement this planning process, and

Whereas, based upon these regulations the City of Lynchburg is required to complete a water supply plan that fulfills the regulations by November 2, 2008, and

Whereas the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality has announced the availability of grant funds to assist localities offset some of the costs related to the development of these plans and is encouraging localities to submit applications for grant funds to develop regional water supply plans, and

Whereas, the Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council has offered to coordinate a planning study to examine the feasibility of the development of a regional water supply plan, develop a scope of work for such a project and to seek grant funds from DEQ to offset the cost of this review, and

Whereas, regional water supply planning is a sensible approach to developing a water supply plan since watershed boundaries do not follow political boundaries and there will likely be cost savings to all jurisdictions participating, and

Whereas, the Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council has previously managed the development of successful regional plans and is a logical entity to organize and manage a regional water supply planning process, and

Whereas, the City of Lynchburg desires to participate in a regional water supply plan feasibility study that will develop a scope of work for a regional water supply plan and desires to secure DEQ grant funds to help offset the cost of the scope of work development.

Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Lynchburg authorizes the Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council to develop an application for source water planning grant funds and to perform a feasibility study and to develop a scope of work for a regional source water supply plan which will meet mandated regulations and provide long range perspective on the needs and opportunities of the region's future water supply, and

Be it further resolved that the City Manager is authorized to sign appropriate documents related to the source water planning grant and the regional source water supply plan on behalf of the City of Lynchburg ,and

It is further resolved that the City of Lynchburg intends to provide its appropriate share in matching funds for the project if the grant is awarded.

Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council

November 28, 2005

Dear Manager/Administrator:

As you know the Local Government Council is working to invite localities in our region to participate in a region wide source water study that will meet new DEQ requirements and provide better water planning alternatives for our members.

Earlier this month DEQ announced \$300,000 in statewide grant funds to assist localities and regions with the costs of the development of these source water plans. I suggest that we pursue an application for funding that will be used to help develop some base data and a scope of work that will meet the DEQ water planning requirements for the eleven jurisdictions in the region and provide our members with a study that can be used effectively by our members. The idea is to split the process of meeting the DEQ requirements into two phases, Phase I for planning and Phase II for implementation.

In this Phase I approach the Local Government Council staff would develop some of the statistical information required by the DEQ planning process and an engineering consultant would work with a team of utility provider and planning department representatives to develop a scope of work that could be developed into the actual Phase II study. By splitting the project into two steps, we can take from now until July 1, 2006 to think through how and what we will accomplish. It will also give the eleven jurisdictions potentially involved in the study a chance for input, to evaluate and understand what Phase II is all about. It gives us a better chance to make sure that the resulting product will meet our needs and that localities are comfortable moving forward on a regional basis.

The grant submission date is January 6 and local governments are asked to pass a resolution, such as the one attached, authorizing the application. This is a competitive process and a small amount of money available statewide. But the only way we can be considered is to submit our application.

I would appreciate ____ (Jurisdiction) ____ consideration in joining with the Local Government Council in an application to provide some Phase I planning funds to develop an appropriate scope of work to both meet DEQ mandates and develop a report that will be meaningful for our members. I am suggesting a match of \$ ____ for ____ (Jurisdiction) based on a formula that will be discussed at the Administrators/Managers meeting on December 1.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Christie
Executive Director